

# Remington Co. Plant Marvel of Efficiency And Modern Machines

(Continued from Page 1.)

mined upon the basis of efficiency. Cameras used in connection with powerful microscopes and high candle power lights are able to discern even the molecular atoms of a polished piece of steel.

The photographic room discloses huge blue-print making machines and accessory machines for printing 600 yards of photograph per day, each strip three feet wide.

Enlarging cameras reproduce in less than five minutes, copies of book-lets two inches square, letters, orders or drawings to squares two feet wide. The copying of letters by stenographers for filing purposes is therefore eliminated to some extent and reproductions of orders are made quickly by negative. Five expert photographers are constantly employed.

## GENERAL OFFICE

The general office, located in the administration building and occupying the entire second floor of the section known as A-2, is magnificently appointed. It has a high ceiling, windows throughout, with 300 desks of the same material, fully equipped with typewriters, adding machines, dictaphones, to obviate the double letter writing of stenographers. The services are utilized mostly in filing papers and keeping records.

Each official with his staff is given an allotted space that is called a cubicle, which is separated from the adjoining doors. Lighting is by the indirect pendant globe system.

The mailing and filing department is worthy of particular attention. It is here that the distribution of the 2,500 letters received daily and an equal amount of outgoing mail is attended to and kept available.

One of the main duties of the company is to be equipped with those seeking business is that every letter sent or received must be in duplicate. Thus, while the original may be on any official's desk, another can instantly be located.

The filing is entirely done without index or numeral other than by name and part of operation to which it may refer. Thousands of index cards are thus eliminated in this unique and most novel of systems, said to have been utilized never before.

Among the labor saving devices utilized are sealing machines capable of closing 2,000 envelopes per hour, letter openers at greater speed, automatic stamping machines.

When receiving material and duplicate copies of all letters are stamped with an electrically operated date and time stamp and numbered with an automatic numbering machine. Subject numbers are assigned and placed upon each communication, the correspondence being laid out and classified under a decimal system that permits of unlimited expansion.

In practical use, the number indicating the subject is used for correspondence, but this number is used in conjunction with the subject divided by the numbers representing certain processes or operations common to all subjects. For example, a certain subject number is 15. The process of a subject is 15. Therefore, for a communication regarding the manufacture of this tool the number would be 154-7-15, and all correspondence on this subject will be found in folder No. 745-7-15.

The original letter is sent to the officer interested, to be acted upon and returned to the subject files, and the copy is placed in the combined reference-charge-index file, where it is always available for ready reference.

## MAIN BUILDINGS

The main buildings, 12 in number, connected by 12 service buildings, each five stories in height, house the offices, machines, scientific, hospital, restaurant and other departments. They are connected throughout their approximate half mile in length by central passageways or service buildings on each floor and beneath the main buildings, a double series of all piping and electric wiring is easily available.

The main units are individually supplied with electric power. Numerous motors are utilized to drive all shafting on their respective sides. The power of these motors varies with the number of machines to be operated.

The service buildings are uniformly used as tool rooms and inspection departments on one side while the other contains locker rooms for men and women, rest rooms, lavatories with hot and cold water, sanitary drinking fountains and toilets.

These buildings are numbered according to their own departments. The administration building, the first in the row is lettered "A" the lower floor being numbered "1" and so on upwards and throughout the extension of units.

The guard system is so placed that no person in one section or department may pass to another without inspection of credentials. This is to prevent the obtaining of secrets through government spies that the involved guard system is said to have been employed.

From the large shops and the wood-working kilns, to sections of the monster plant the rough product comes for completion and assembling. It is here that nearly 9,000 pieces of machinery have been installed or soon will be set, purchased from far and wide throughout the United States. Various parts, fixtures and tools are also made in the plant.

It is the arrangement of this machinery that attracts the eye and thought as one ponders upon the immensity of the project and the exactness of the work required.

Here the majority of the 16,000 men eventually to be employed will work in three daily shifts.

In the big buildings of the plant gathered in their own departments, assemblers, barrel drillers, riflers, straighteners, boring mill hands, braziers, browners, die-sinkers, drill press hands, filers, grinders, gauge makers, inspectors, lathe hands, mill machine hands, polishers, profilers, screw machine hands, steel hardeners, tool makers, wood-workers and scrapers of other artisans who will make up the new community of Remington city, a part of Bridgeport.

To enumerate the various classes of machinery obviously would be tiresome but it may be said that no department has less than 150 machines of a kind, that they run in batteries

of from 20 to 100 along the window spaces where natural light may be obtained during the day, and that in some instances such machinery as the magnetometers, hold hundreds of parts firmly by an electro-magnet system, while big emery wheels work silently in their casings. Barrel lathes and engine lathes, milling machines and automatic screw machines are found in abundance in a walk through the plant. They would be considered extraordinary in the ordinary factory, but they become common among the quantity of exclusively used machinery found in the Remington factories.

Barrel boring and rifling are most delicate operations. They are accomplished by use of drills through which oil is constantly forced. The examining and straightening of barrels is an art as is also the boring, for no shining surface shows upon a gun.

Into rooms where hundreds of men peer through rifled tubes of steel focusing upon one, two or more lines, on ground glass squares inserted in the window panes, the astonished sightseer gazes. So delicate is the work that no instrument has been perfected to equal the accuracy of the human eye. The microscope indicates the true position of the barrel.

According to U. S. government standards a rifle is composed of 123 separate parts, divided between the stock and grips, the barrel and the lock or firing and loading accessories.

It is 43 inches long, with a stock of wood 40 inches or extending to thin three inches of the muzzle.

Workmanship upon parts is done within ten and one-thousandth of an inch as against one and one-thousandth used in ordinary mechanical work. The weight is 3.69 pounds, 1.11 pounds being allowed for the wood, three pounds for the barrel and one pound for the bayonet. There are four grooves in the rifling with one complete there are over 28 inches.

Besides the inspector's rooms in the main building that contain thousands of minute inspecting apparatus and tools, the scolding rooms, oil refineries and buffer-making departments attract attention.

Of the 6,000 men now employed approximately one-third are said to be unmarried. They draw wages of about \$12.00 per week or \$5.00 per annum. When more than double this number is employed it will be seen readily that the pay-roll of this concern will alone distribute in Bridgeport fully \$12,000,000 annually.

Wage scales and rates are kept accurate under control of the accounting department in connection with the time clerks and clocks located in each service building. On entering the plant and leaving every employee, he is compelled to stamp his name on the clock.

Men, who are employed in the offices only.

## WOODWORKING DEPTS.

A large section of the main buildings of the plant has been devoted to the woodworking division, which makes bayonet grips, gun stocks and hand guards. Enormous storage sheds, and a large sawmill have been installed for scientific treatment of the wood.

Nearly 2,000 machines are devoted to sawing, turning and planing these parts.

Black walnut is the wood used, because of its toughness, lightness and failure to warp. The material is purchased in the South, sawed into rough models somewhat resembling a barrel, and then shipped in carload lots to this city.

When taken from the cars they are piled in precise layers upon special metal supports or hand cars rolling upon wheels and are then taken to the electric planing mill, where in self-adjusting and automatic lathes, they are turned to proper shape. A drill press inserts all the lateral holes required. Thence they are taken to another machine, where scoops out vertical and horizontal holes and cavities, each machine working almost humanly in its turns and polished and receive their finishing touches.

## FORGE SHOPS

The forging department of the Remington Arms Co. while insignificant in comparison of space beside the great units that rise five stories on the easterly side of the grounds, are nevertheless a prime factor in the economy of production.

These buildings are five in number directly connected through their centers by a track upon which motor-driven electric cars, each of two tons capacity handle the enormous weights of metals that are utilized.

One of the buildings is 193 feet in length. The other four buildings are 32 feet in length. The uniform width for all is 64 feet.

As one enters the first of the series of forge shops he is impressed by the vast quantity of metal dies that appear strewn about in apparent confusion, yet all properly marked. In a space not 10 feet square, 120 tons of steel dies for the drop hammers are stored.

These blacked of planed and grooved steel bearing the impression of what is soon to be a rough blade or breach bolt vary in weight from 125 to 800 pounds. A few machines, like huge laundry mangles, though of quiet action nevertheless are having a kind of trouble that would make a sandstone mill the desert of Sahara successful in comparison, for they are sand blasts used in rough polishing metal forgings and sharp-edged sand, in large quantities, is blown against the fragments within.

As one progresses through the buildings, the noise and din increases, as the arrangement of all burning furnaces, punches, drop hammers, shears cutting two inch thicknesses of steel like paper, braziers, annealers and sand-blasts is so completed that the most terrifically noisy operation is the farthest from the streets.

Lined in their series of batteries, 150 drop hammers, each with its

complementary oil burning furnace and steam jet behind, vie with each other in action. From the little quick acting lifting trip-hammer to the big compressed air drop with its 25,000 pounds impact, all is activity and each is drawing its quota of impressions from the 5,000,000 pounds of raw steel stored in a rear pound room. When in working shape it is estimated that the steel stock alone will average 20,000,000 pounds.

Those mechanics who have worked near only one fitting of the 500,000 pounds pressure will appreciate the Remington plant with its batteries of 40 drop-hammers with an average impact each of 500,000 pounds and realize the noise of steam, glare of light and terrific din in which men must speak to each other by megaphone.

When it is further known that but for the clouded steam that blows at hundreds of pounds pressure against the red hot metal, flakes would be driven through the skin of the operative in the 200,000 foot square reality of the scene will be more impressive.

A flat piece of steel is inserted in a furnace. It is taken from the furnace and placed on a red punch die. A movement of the throttle and a 2,000 pound hammer falls with increasing velocity and rises. An impression like a relief on a metal piece, is seen. It is thrown up for a helper to pick up. Thrust into another furnace it enters trimming press, which cuts away the rough edges leaving a knife-like piece, the hammer and coarse with red spots here and there. It is then annealed and then goes to the machine for finishing operations.

From plain steel come locks, bolts, casings and other parts, while the little trips pound squares into cylinders and spheres or other forms of shapes. Forgings, 176,000 daily, are now being made.

Incidentally, in connection with this department but not wholly related it is said that about 500,000 cubic tons of steel are purchased from the city tanks in a daily.

For metering this supply and determining the exact cost of each department, six of the largest gas meters in the world are at work. Each of these, weighing a ton and a half are distributed in the departments supplied.

A view of one of these enormous meters shows that they are two feet thick by three wide by four feet in height. Each has a registering capacity of nine million cubic feet of gas with three inch supply pipes. They were made especially for the National Tufts Meter Co. of this city and in appearance resemble a huge safe in a business office.

## POWER HOUSE

Situated on the westerly side of the plant, on the shore of the lake, is the shore of Pembroke lake, which has been dammed high and concentrated into a much smaller space than once it occupied in the power-house heart of the plant.

The building is 53x16x25 feet, and is equipped to handle a supply of electricity little short of the kilowatt total supplied by the United Illuminating Co. to the whole city of Bridgeport. It is said by engineers to be the most compact and up-to-date plant in the United States.

The construction of the building, one side is employed in the generation of steam and in the holding immediate supply of coal. On the other side five directly driven turbines generate an uniform supply of electricity. The turbines are located on an upper floor instead of upon the ground as is usual, while in the basement, ash-conveyors, elevators of novel construction, air-conditioning and steam-heating apparatus alternate with ice-machines and heating apparatus.

The power section develops 12,750 kilowatts of electricity used in operating the plant. The turbines are under the United States army system of relief, wear conspicuous blue uniforms patterned upon those of soldiers and are officers, as in the army, and carry additional passes to those of their department.

Of the outside guarding system machinery, by said all members are under the United States army system of relief, wear conspicuous blue uniforms patterned upon those of soldiers and are officers, as in the army, and carry additional passes to those of their department.

Their duties are to man all the outside gates and entrances to buildings, observe the plant work and inspect any person passing between buildings or on the grounds who has no proper credentials.

In case of fire they at once sound the alarm, turn out the fire trucks and man the fire apparatus. In cases of accident they take immediate command, give first aid treatment and attend to the removal of the injured.

Eight cafeterias have already been delivered, each capable of caring for 300 diners in various sections of the plant. All the coffee and food for the plant are furnished by the cafeterias. A man walks up to the warming table and taking his tray, soup bowl, coffee cup and plate made of enamel ware, orders his food. He eats at a certain number or desk and returns the empty dishes.

A fire protection of the most modern kind has been installed throughout and about the big buildings. Five enormous tanks, each storing 20,000 gallons of water supply a stream at nozzle pressure of about 100 pounds. In addition, the pumps forcing water from 60 to 100 pounds send streams from the power house. A modern hose line for connection with outside hydrants is conveniently located in different sections of the yards.

Inside, the buildings are equipped with a full sprinkler system, fireproof doorways between each section and fire-escape for exit. On each floor at 60 feet intervals are kept a 500 gallon chemical tank and hose lines. Everywhere throughout the factory hand apparatus is available for instant use.

The guards, too, are trained to rally at once upon fire calls. There is a regularly appointed fire chief who is an experienced fireman and under him are several assistants.

Telephone communication with the outside world is maintained through the factory. It is the exchange of the Southern New England Telephone Co. aided by a private branch exchange, which connects directly through extension stations upon the desks of the officials and heads of the company.

Throughout the main and branch buildings the most modern of inter-communicating systems is used. By a system of numbers shown in the rotation of a disk similar to the combination of a safe, any one of the 160 interior telephone stations may instantly be reached.

An additional system known as the "call system" used only in the most modern and progressive offices and factories, is utilized, whereby if any official is wanted a certain number, corresponding to his name may be set and the alarm run throughout every

alleys, lounging rooms and billiard table.

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This feature is the most up-to-date. An oil filtration plant, which will re-filter all oil used in the machinery throughout is being installed. As this is purchased in the city the saving will at once be apparent.

The ashes produced in the boiler room are now being used in concrete work on the premises. They will be sold later as even footings for the building will at once be apparent.

The plant also operates a blower system capable of disposing automatically of five carloads of mill shavings from the woodworking department.

Pass SYSTEM

To enter the building on Barnum avenue, guarded by two sentry houses and a magnificent employment office, or to pass from one room to another, one must present a pass, duly stamped and countersigned. Not only must one present a pass, but he must also present a pass, duly stamped and countersigned. Not only must one present a pass, but he must also present a pass, duly stamped and countersigned.

These forms are changed from day to day, week to week and month to month and the various forms of passes are subject to color idiom of the employee. The necessity of entrance except through favorable supervision may be found in these of the company's rules:

Before one brick was placed upon the top of another in the massive structure that now houses them, they formed an organization. No machine, piece of steel, stick of wood or even piece of office furniture was coughed before the production department knew where it was to go and in many instances had accurately mapped out upon a blue print chart its exact location in the plant and the operation that was to convey it from the railroad car to its first location on the floor.

When an order is placed with the company this department analyzes its construction and devises the most economical and quickest way in which the multitude of operations necessary to the production of the product can be done. From its staff, directions of the most explicit kind emanate and improvement on system is made. Should this department cease work the entire plant must shut down.

RESTAURANT

The restaurant, which is located upon the top floor, and occupies an entire section in the central portion of the plant has been especially equipped, at an expense of about \$40,000 to the company. This restaurant now feeds about 1,100 men at noon and 500 about the plant at night about half as many again are served. Plans are being made whereby special service will be provided to take care of five or more thousand at noon.

Dinner is served in relays from 11:30 a. m. to 2 p. m., and from 8:30 to 9 at night. The main dining room is 500 men, eight to ten tables with cafeteria lunch counters about the walls to accommodate 150 more. Forty attendants conduct the work of the restaurant. A second dining room is provided for the officers. It seats about 60 and is beautifully appointed with handsome oak trimmed walls with tapestry pictures of famous scenes.

The dining rooms are the only places where smoking is permitted in the plant.

The diner gets a tray with necessary and passing before him, supply chefs, takes what he wishes to a table. The menu is nourishing and the price reasonable.

In the officers' dining room, a more elaborate menu is served. A special electric grill is in operation, and refrigeration boxes are visible through glass sides.

At present the daily consumption of food comprises 450 pounds of meat, 800 quarts of milk, 48 loaves of bread, 75 dozen buns, 30 pounds of coffee, and 400 pies. The cooking is done on a gas range, and the food is served by waiters who carry it to the tables. Bakers produce 400 pies and 1,000 loaves of bread, and refrigerators make 100 quarts of ice cream daily. The ice plant produces a ton of ice a day.

An adequate space could be furnished for all the employees eventually to be cared for, a special portable apparatus known as a cafomobile has been devised to carry hot food to the men.

These cafomobiles consist of huge warming tables on wheels, containing coffee urns, and dish receptacles. The tables are so contrived that they fold into small space and may be trundled from one department to another, and there connected with electric current to furnish the heat.

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The guards, too, are trained to rally at once upon fire calls. There is a regularly appointed fire chief who is an experienced fireman and under him are several assistants.

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bles in the barracks building, is now being completed.

## EMPLOYMENT DEPT.

The employment department, occupying a building at the left of the main entrance on Boston avenue is like the helm of a ship. It is through this medium that the workmen of this great plant are supplied. With an accurate system of record, each applicant is considered and given a trial if circumstances do not disprove his written assertions. Nearly every class of man is employed, and no restrictions have been placed upon color, race or nationality. Capability is what is sought and frankness goes far in procuring employment. A rule of the company is that everyone is taken at his or her word.

## PRODUCTION DEPT.

One of the main divisions of the plant, which, as the power-house constitutes the heart, may be imaginatively as well as literally be considered the brain of the enterprise, is the department in charge of production.

On the third floor of the administration building is a corps of nearly 250 engineers and designers, craftsmen and other technically trained men drawn from colleges, great industrial plants and the ordnance departments of many governments.

Before one brick was placed upon the top of another in the massive structure that now houses them, they formed an organization. No machine, piece of steel, stick of wood or even piece of office furniture was coughed before the production department knew where it was to go and in many instances had accurately mapped out upon a blue print chart its exact location in the plant and the operation that was to convey it from the railroad car to its first location on the floor.

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## HOSPITAL

A hospital service complete in its appointments is located in a central portion of the plant. Elevator service is convenient for stretcher bearing patients. The operating room is thoroughly equipped for operative, clinical or medical work.

A surgeon is in daily attendance, aided by graduate nurses. There are three rooms and an ante-chamber. An office with full record cards and cabinets is maintained by the surgeon and his clerks. A clinic comprising a full pharmacopoeia, dressing tables and dressings, treats about 100 cases daily.

An operating room with emergency table, three hospital cots and a shower for foot prostrations, and lamps for eye-treatment is in evidence. Cases too serious for removal to a local hospital may be treated on the spot and the patient properly attended and fed during his confinement.

## TRANSPORTATION

While the outside traffic of the big plant is by cars drawn by railway and company engines, and by motor trucks and automobiles, the interior methods are more interesting. In the main buildings, five stories in height and the forge shops, the distance from one end to another is little less than half a mile. It will readily be seen then that to walk through the buildings or convey material from department to department is no mean matter.

As one stares down the vista of the central passageways on any floor he looks upon a scene that would astound the side-walk in any big city artery of travel. Hundreds of forms appear in motion until the last is lost in dim perspective.

Messenger boys, in uniform, travel the plant every 15 minutes, bearing messages. They accomplish the task on bicycle and the cry of "ahead" or "gangway" is familiar.

Transportation of heavy weight is accomplished by means of ingenious motor trucks, similar to those used by the baggage department of the Grand Central depot at New York. Each of these trucks is motor driven, has a gas battery and can sustain three tons. So arranged are the loads upon the floor that the trucks have merely to back under them and carry off an entire pile of material.

In the woodworking plants, and kilns, tracks with special wheel trucks capable of withstanding heat of the ovens are used.

## REAL ESTATE DEPT.

So critical is the lodging and home situation in this city, which was already crowded when the Remington factory began its work, that it was found necessary by the company to begin erection of its own dwellings to relieve the situation.

For this purpose as well as for future expansion, a real estate department has been found necessary. The first work was to canvass the city to ascertain the extent to which families and single men and women could be accommodated. For this purpose a corps of men and women assistants was employed.

## FIRE PROTECTION

A fire protection of the most modern kind has been installed throughout and about the big buildings. Five enormous tanks, each storing 20,000 gallons of water supply a stream at nozzle pressure of about 100 pounds. In addition, the pumps forcing water from 60 to 100 pounds send streams from the power house. A modern hose line for connection with outside hydrants is conveniently located in different sections of the yards.

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LOTTA SUN ENUFF RAIN.

**WE'RE THE BUSYFELLERS—  
YOU CAN THANK US  
BECAUSE THEY'RE "JUST  
NATURALLY GOOD"**

**WATCH IN THIS NEWSPAPER**

room in the building upon deep-sounding songs that penetrate above even the deafening noise of the trip-hammers as they pound to their accompaniment of hissing steam.

Later large tracts of lands lying in the northern section of the city were obtained and model tenements and dwellings were projected.

They are now under course of construction and nearly 100 have been completed. The company is offering them for sale under small weekly instalments to employees of the plant. Several six family houses and large apartments have also been erected.

The company will continue building houses until all employees in need of homes are provided for.

Miss Edna Eastwood has returned to New Britain after spending her vacation at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. John T. Eastwood.

Edward Lyon has sold a horse and wagon to Boughton Noble.

Charles Nichols of Danbury, was a New Year's visitor of his sister, Mrs. Stephen B. Hayes.

Harold Tomlinson has returned to Woodbridge after spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Carl Stilson.

Perkins Nichols, a student of Brown University, has spent the holidays at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Nichols.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Booth have enjoyed a brief visit with Mr. and Mrs. Albert Crator in Huntington.

Edward Garing has spent a part of his vacation as the guest of relatives in Sandy Hook.

Henry Penny, who has suffered an attack of rheumatism, is improving.